

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-11 will have been canceled and claims 12-16 will have been submitted for consideration by the Examiner. In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections of all the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

Initially, Applicant would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided, for the acknowledgment of Applicants' claims for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents in the Official Action. Applicant further notes with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgment of Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed in the present application on March 11, 2003 by the return of the initialed and signed PTO-1449 Form, and for consideration of the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statement.

Turning to the merits on the action, the Examiner has objected to claim 3 because of informalities. By the present amendment and merely for clarification of language purposes, Applicant has canceled claim 3. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw this objection as it is now clearly moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by SAITO et al. (U.S. Patent 6,523,696).

As noted above, Applicant has canceled these rejected claims and has submitted new claims 12-16 for consideration. Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection

based on newly submitted claims 12-16 and will discuss said rejection with respect to the pending claims in the present application as will be set forth herein below. The newly added claims merely clarify the subject matter recited in the canceled claims, but do not narrow the scope of the claims.

Applicant's claims relate to an apparatus which has a display device and is connected to a home electric appliance not having an IP address via an IEEE 1394 network. The apparatus comprises a memory which stores a node ID corresponding to a predetermined ID which is assigned to the home electric appliance. The node ID is assigned to the home electric appliance of the IEEE 1394 network when the home electric appliance is turned ON. The apparatus comprises a controller which checks whether the node ID is assigned to the home electric appliance, based on the predetermined ID of the home electric appliance, when the display device is requested to display the status of the home electric appliance on the display device, judges that the home electric appliance is OFF when the node ID is not assigned to the home electric appliance, and displays, on the display device, a message instructing a user to turn ON the home electric appliance.

On the contrary, Fig. 7 of SAITO et al. discloses a system in which two home networks are interconnected through a public network. Fig. 20 of SAITO et al. discloses a console which displays information on services of the two home networks. However, while SAITO et al. discloses that the console displays a list of services and a group of operation buttons, it does not disclose that the console displays whether the devices are ON or OFF. SAITO et al. further does not disclose how to judge whether the devices are

ON or OFF. Additionally, SAITO et al. does not display a message instructing a user to turn a home electric appliance ON.

On the other hand, the claimed invention checks whether the node ID is assigned to the home electric appliance, based on the predetermined ID of the home electric appliance, judges that the home electric appliance is OFF when the node ID is not assigned to the home electric appliance, and displays a message instructing a user to turn ON the home electric appliance. However, SAITO et al. does not disclose the combination of the features of the claimed invention.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the features recited in Applicant's claims 12-16 are not disclosed nor rendered obvious by the disclosure of SAITO et al. cited by the Examiner.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application in due course.

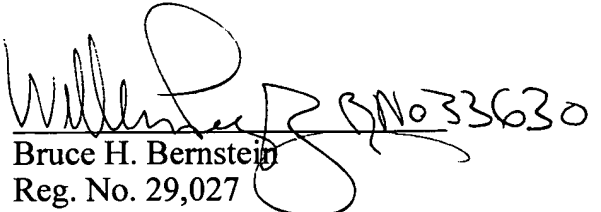
**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes that he has now done so. Applicant has canceled the rejected claims and has submitted new claims for consideration by the Examiner. With respect to the new claims, Applicant has pointed out the features thereof and has contrasted the features of the new claims with the disclosure of the references. Accordingly, Applicant has provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all claims in the present application and respectfully requests an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application in due course.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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March 4, 2004  
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